

LAW.

SUPREME COURT.—WEDNESDAY.

SITTIN IN BANCO.

BEFORE the Honors Sir ALFRED STEPHEN, Chief Justice, Mr. Justice HARGRAVE, and Mr. Justice FAUCETT.

NEW TRIAL MOTION.

CANNING V. BROWN AND ANOTHER.

This was a motion on rule nisi for a new trial of the above case—an action upon a cheque for £200, wherein the plaintiff had obtained a verdict.

Mr. Fisher, for the defendant, appeared to support the motion, and Mr. Darby and Mr. Butler in support of the verdict.

The argument was not concluded.

ADMISSION TO THE COLONIAL BAR.

Mr. DANIELS moved that the Bar of New South Wales of Mr. Hugh Hart Lush, who had passed the necessary examinations in this colony to qualify him for such admission.

The CHIEF JUSTICE said that he had before him a certificate of Mr. Lush, having passed satisfactory examinations. Mr. (Sir Alfred) Stephen had received introductions to Mr. Lush, from two separate quarters, both of which that gentleman had been spoken of as highly satisfactory terms. Mr. Lush had, it was stated, been residing for a long period at New Zealand, in which country he had occupied a position more than respectable. He was a barrister of the Bar of the Colony of New Zealand, Sir William Martin, by the Bishop of New Zealand, and by Bishop Paterson. All that remained, therefore, was to direct Mr. Lush's admission, and to express a wish for the learned gentleman's success in the practice of his profession.

Mr. Lush was then admitted and sworn in.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COURT.

BEFORE his Honor Judge SUTHERLAND.

BUCHANAN V. FRITHCRAFT.

Plaintiff claimed £26 9s. 3d., balance of an account for wages from 25th October, 1866, to 18th March, 1867, at the rate of £20 a week. Plaintiff was caretaker of one of defendant's branch banks in the city of Sydney. Plaintiff had contrary to orders sold goldsmith credit, and defrauded in his account bad debts. According to the agreements between the parties, all sales were to be for cash, and consequently the defrauds had to be made good by the plaintiff. Evidence was given of the payment of the defrauds in the accounts, but the plaintiff denied it, and when the plaintiff was asked whether the plaintiff was to be paid £20 a week, or 20s. a week, as the defendant averred, defendant had paid the plaintiff at the rate of 30s. a week up to October 20th, but he alleged that the payments prior to that date were not made, and were made by his clock without his knowledge. As soon as he became aware of it, he insisted on the full payment of the defrauds, as sworn to by himself. The parties were directly at variance in all the material facts of the case. Verdict for plaintiff, less £8 7s. 7d., paid into Court. Mr. C. Davis appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. S. C. Brown for the defendant.

SMITH AND ANOTHER V. G. S. N. CO.

The plaintiff in this case sued the defendants for damage done to his property in the course of his business. The case did not terminate, and Mr. G. S. Davis appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. G. C. Davis for the defendants.

ERKATUM.—An error occurs in the second of the Supreme Court rules published in yesterday's *Herald*. The last word of the rule was printed *desired*; it should have been *denied*.

INSOLVENCY COURT.

BEFORE the CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

In the estate of William D. Stewart, an adjourned third meeting. Three debts were proved. An offer of composition was made and accepted.

In the estate of Michael and Black, a third meeting. Ten debts were proved. The joint estate, and one debt on the separate estate of John Black. A special meeting was appointed to be held on the 25th October, for proof of foreign debts.

In the estate of John White, a third meeting. One debt was proved. Rules 22 and 23 to be complied with on or before 26th July.

In the estate of Cornelius Sheehan, a third meeting. No creditor proved.

In the estate of the Sydney Hay, Corn, and Co-operative Company, a third meeting. Five debts were proved.

In the estate of Thomas Parker, a single meeting. Insolvent was declared in attendance, the meeting was adjourned until the next day.

In the estate of Maurice Crotty, an adjourned third meeting. Three debts were proved. Insolvent did not attend. Twelve debts were accounted, under rules 22 and 23, to be filed within six weeks.

In the estate of Noah Collier, an adjourned single meeting. No creditor proved.

SURRENDERS.

Sarah Culamee, of Black Range, miner. Liabilities, £137 14s. 6d. Assets, £21 10s. Mr. Humphrey, official assignee.

Edward Culamee, of Black Range, miner. Liabilities, £137 14s. 6d. Assets, £28 10s. Mr. Sampson, official assignee.

William Horriss of Scoupe, keeper. Liabilities, £10 2s. 11d. Assets, £31 10s. Mr. Mackenzie, official assignee.

James E. of Crown-street, Surey Hds., Sydney dealer and agent. Liabilities, £107 10s. Assets, £4. Mr. Humphrey, official assignee.

Joseph P. Symons, of Botany, writing clerk. Liabilities, £256 17s. 10d. Assets, £29 2s. 9d. Mr. Sampson, official assignee.

COURT BUSINESS.

Thursday, June 20.—At 11—Motions for Confirmation of Plans: by Mr. J. C. Thompson, of Brisbane, 2, and Mr. H. Humphrey—James Millar, 12; Francis Brown, account showing disposal of assets; Frederick C. Crotty, account showing disposal of assets; John Black, account showing disposal of assets; Mr. C. Tindale, 1s. 9d.; Henry Smythe, 2s. 9d.; Rules for Compulsory Sequestration; M'Farlane v. Burne, Miller, and Co., 1s. 9d.; and for the recovery of debts, followed by a letter, a dinner, a ball at the Courthouse, and finally, a supper, all of which are reported to have been highly successful.

We have shown a design of a monument at 100 feet high, to be erected in the church of St. John the Baptist, at the spot near the Westport hotel, and where, in accordance with his expressed wish, he was buried. A broken column appropriately represents the sudden termination of his life, whilst in the enjoyment of health and vigour, possessed of wealth that, under his judicious management, had increased to a sum of £100,000. He had a long and eventful career when by all parties he was regarded as a bold and enterprising man, and a man of great ability. On his arrival from the carriage, a spontaneous burst of three hearty cheers greeted him. He was escorted from the terminus to the old favourite establishment of the Royal Hotel, which was handsomely decorated by a triumphal arch, and a motto of "God save the Queen." The motto, and a great change within the last few days, also, have been added to the general decorations. The heavy fog we have lately been visited with. Yesterday it rained without intermission, and continued to come down heavily during last night, with every appearance of several days' more rain. All, though pleased to see it, turned out very poorly. In the evening the clouds broke, and rain descended in intermittent showers, which have continued ever since.

SINGLETON.—The weather (says the *Times* of yesterday) has undergone a great change within the last few days, after a long and dreary winter. The days are now comparatively innocuous, unless they reach an unusual height, after the middle of July; for by that time all the snow has generally been placed beyond the reach of danger.MAITLAND.—The *Argus* of yesterday says—The weather has undergone a variation this week. On Sunday afternoon there were indications of a disruption of the general atmosphere lately prevailing, and in the evening a heavy rain, accompanied by a strong wind, and a watery moon, gave further tokens of a change. The rain came in thickly to day, and the day turned out very poorly. In the evening the clouds broke, and rain descended in intermittent showers, which have continued ever since.MELBOURNE.—The weather (says the *Times* of yesterday) is still the same as on the 12th instant.The *Standard* of yesterday announces the arrival and reception of His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, and of his suite, at Hobart on Friday last, at 3 o'clock. The *Chronicle* says—There were present to receive him on the platform the Mayors and Councillors of Hobart and Devonport, and numerous other leading inhabitants of the colony. On his arrival, a salute from the carriage, a spontaneous burst of three hearty cheers greeted him. He was escorted from the terminus to the old favourite establishment of the Royal Hotel, which was handsomely decorated by a triumphal arch, and a motto of "God save the Queen." The motto, and a great change within the last few days, also, have been added to the general decorations. The heavy fog we have lately been visited with. 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THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

(From the *Saturday Review*)

The great work on which the statesmen of Canada have so long been engaged is at length completed. The Confederation Act has received the Royal Assent, and the loan of £3,000,000 for the construction of the railway which is to connect the whole country with the port of Halifax has been guaranteed by the Imperial Government. The works which are to convert Quebec into a first-class fortress are being actively prosecuted at the Imperial expense, and in all respects England has that far done her best to add to the strength and consolidate the resources of the new Confederacy. The immediate results of these important measures will depend entirely on the spirit in which they are worked by our colonial brethren, and the great ultimate issue which hangs upon them will in all human probability be decided by the tone which may prevail in the Dominion of Canada, and the policy she may pursue during the next few years. Public opinion, both here and in Canada, has as yet but feebly apprehended all that may flow out of this momentous crisis. Confederation is a fact, but it needs more experience than we at present possess to say whether the effect will be to knit more closely the tie between the mother-country and her offshoots, or to encourage that tendency to drift into independence which some English politicians fear they can see in all the recent changes which have so largely modified our colonial policy. Two things seem very certain. First, we may be sure that the present situation will not be maintained for ever in conservative stagnation. Either Canada will draw closer to England, as all her chief representative men and the most sagacious of our own statesmen hope, or else she will drift inevitably into brief independence, to be followed by absorption into the ambitious Republic on her borders. In the next place, we may with no less confidence assert that the choice between these two directions of movement rests not with us, but with the Canadians themselves. Except on an impulse originating across the Atlantic, we can do little to bind more closely together the scattered fragments of an Empire which might by closer union double its material strength and moral influence. What England can do for this end will be done, notwithstanding the preaching of a doctrinaire school which, at a time when all other nations are obeying a seemingly irresistible impulse towards agglomeration, would have us believe that the true policy of the British Empire is to split itself up into a number of absolutely independent communities. The theory of Canadian independence, at the ultimate end to be looked for, isolates all the most untenable; and the narrow views indicated by Lord Lyveden's speech on the Guarantee Bill are quite certain, whenever an emergency arises, to be scouted in favour of the more generous policy which the Duke of Buckingham and Earl Russell, as representing both parties in the State, so warmly supported, and to which the Duke of Cambridge, as the chief of the army, gave his hearty support. All the questions which group themselves about these discussions on the military defence of Canada resolve themselves into this one—Shall Canada remain British, or merge into the United States? Those who talk most learnedly of the advantages of independence know that this will never be the end. Once cast loose from England, Canada's destiny is to add new territory to the most grasping of modern States. Such a contingency is regarded with horror by the vast majority of every nationality and every class in the colony; and under these circumstances it cannot be honourably contemplated—and, if the Canadians do but play their part with vigour and heartiness, it never will be seriously contemplated—by this country.

There are some considerations, however, which the colonists will do well to lay to heart. Now that we are entering upon new relations, we may without offence speak of shortcomings on their side which in the past have tended greatly to strengthen the hands of the separatist party here. In discussing the means to be employed for the defence of the Canadian frontier, we have not always, in England, made sufficient allowance for the comparative poverty, both in men and material, of the North American colonies. They have now a population of nearly 4,000,000, politically united, but they are scattered over a territory so extended as greatly to embarrass all attempts at defence. But, on the other hand, every candid Canadian will admit that there has not been on their side that alacrity to make sacrifices for their own protection which is the indispensable condition of a successful resistance to attack. No one ever doubted that Canadians would fight when called upon, or that, if properly organised, they would fight as well as they did in the old wars. But, to be ready for whatever may occur, they must not only have stomach for a fight, but they must submit to the burden of previous preparation. A country that is willing to fight, but will neither train an army nor pay for its maintenance, has a poor chance in these days of enormous military preparation. Canada never altogether deserved this reproach, but she showed a disposition to cast the burden of preliminary preparation upon the mother country, which supplied to the separatist party their only argument, if it was not the sole cause of their existence. Canadians have justified this temper by suggesting doubts as to the heartiness with which this country would come to their aid in case of attack. But it is time that all suspicion and lukewarmness should cease. Whatever speculative orators may say, there is not a shadow of doubt that, whenever required, England will acknowledge her obligation to put out her whole strength in aid of colonial defence; and no policy could be so injurious to Canada as an attempt to fix by specific conventions the precise amount of aid, whether in money or men, which Great Britain ought to give for the protection of her great colony. In time of war a more generous spirit on both sides would sweep away all traces of this higgling temper, and the true interests of Canada will be best promoted by a hearty effort on her part to do all that is in her power, without calculating too nicely whether she might not be able to make out a plausible case for assistance towards the expenses of a fortification or the equipment of an army.

An early occasion will test the spirit in which the Canadians are prepared to accept their new responsibilities. An old engagement to put Montreal in a state of defence has been plausibly enough postponed until the final establishment of the Confederation; and they owe it to themselves to enter upon the work in an ungrudging spirit. There has been some reluctance during the transition period to incur the expense of a proper organisation of the Militia and Volunteers on a scale suited to the requirements of the country. Either as a Militiaman or a Volunteer, every inhabitant of a country situated as Canada is, with a long unprotected frontier, and a neighbour who cannot abstain from protesting against the improvement of her internal organi-

sation, ought to have some measure of military training. If these duties are undertaken with spirit, Canada will soon find that her own action has extinguished the party that clamours for separation, and she will obtain, in case of need, far more than an equivalent support from this country (whether it may be wanted in men or money, or in both), than she could ever secure by the most ingenious plea for getting the preliminary work done at the expense of England. Without canvassing the justice of past claims on either side, what we say to the Canadians is that a frank ungrudging effort for their own defence is the only policy that will pay.

If the Canadians in these matters should show that spirit of self-sacrifice in which they have, justly or unjustly, been thought to be somewhat wanting, we see no limit to the benefits which Confederation may bring both to them and to the whole Empire. As the notion of allowing the colonies to be ultimately absorbed by the United States gradually dies out—which, with the help of the Canadians, it is certain to do—there are abundant indications that its place will be taken by the sounder theory of a real absorption of these and our colonies into a common federation with the whole Empire, under which every separate dominion shall in peace and war be a help to every other. The physical difficulties that once would have rendered a political union on so colossal a scale absolutely impossible are now in great part removed; and if the disposition to bring about a closer connection exists, as we believe it does in Canada, there is no assignable reason why the colonies should not take their part in sending representatives, if not to our Parliament as at present constituted, at any rate to some council whose function it should be to consider matters in which Great Britain and her dependencies have a common interest. The original theory of commercial union as the bond between the different sections of the Empire passed away, at any rate in its primary sense, when the doctrines of protection were abandoned. The one-sided theory which followed for a time, by virtue of which this country was to give protection, with no correlative duty on the other side, was necessarily of a provisional character; and it is only in some form of political union closer than that which is afforded by the nomination of a powerless Governor or by a veto of the Crown, that we can see any prospect of a permanent connexion between the centre and the circumference of our scattered Empire. As yet no one would dream of looking to such a result, except as among the probabilities of the future; but it is well to keep before us the undoubted fact that either to this goal or to another will be, notwithstanding the preaching of a doctrinaire school which, at a time when all other nations are obeying a seemingly irresistible impulse towards agglomeration, would have us believe that the true policy of the British Empire is to split itself up into a number of absolutely independent communities. The theory of Canadian independence, at the ultimate end to be looked for, isolates all the most untenable; and the narrow views indicated by Lord Lyveden's speech on the Guarantee Bill are quite certain, whenever an emergency arises, to be scouted in favour of the more generous policy which the Duke of Buckingham and Earl Russell, as representing both parties in the State, so warmly supported, and to which the Duke of Cambridge, as the chief of the army, gave his hearty support. All the questions which group themselves about these discussions on the military defence of Canada resolve themselves into this one—Shall Canada remain British, or merge into the United States? Those who talk most learnedly of the advantages of independence know that this will never be the end. Once cast loose from England, Canada's destiny is to add new territory to the most grasping of modern States. Such a contingency is regarded with horror by the vast majority of every nationality and every class in the colony; and under these circumstances it cannot be honourably contemplated—and, if the Canadians do but play their part with vigour and heartiness, it never will be seriously contemplated—by this country.

There are some considerations, however, which the colonists will do well to lay to heart. Now that we are entering upon new relations, we may without offence speak of shortcomings on their side which in the past have tended greatly to strengthen the hands of the separatist party here. In discussing the means to be employed for the defence of the Canadian frontier, we have not always, in England, made sufficient allowance for the comparative poverty, both in men and material, of the North American colonies. They have now a population of nearly 4,000,000, politically united, but they are scattered over a territory so extended as greatly to embarrass all attempts at defence. But, on the other hand, every candid Canadian will admit that there has not been on their side that alacrity to make sacrifices for their own protection which is the indispensable condition of a successful resistance to attack. No one ever doubted that Canadians would fight when called upon, or that, if properly organised, they would fight as well as they did in the old wars. But, to be ready for whatever may occur, they must not only have stomach for a fight, but they must submit to the burden of previous preparation. A country that is willing to fight, but will neither train an army nor pay for its maintenance, has a poor chance in these days of enormous military preparation. Canada never altogether deserved this reproach, but she showed a disposition to cast the burden of preliminary preparation upon the mother country, which supplied to the separatist party their only argument, if it was not the sole cause of their existence. Canadians have justified this temper by suggesting doubts as to the heartiness with which this country would come to their aid in case of attack. But it is time that all suspicion and lukewarmness should cease. Whatever speculative orators may say, there is not a shadow of doubt that, whenever required, England will acknowledge her obligation to put out her whole strength in aid of colonial defence; and no policy could be so injurious to Canada as an attempt to fix by specific conventions the precise amount of aid, whether in money or men, which Great Britain ought to give for the protection of her great colony. In time of war a more generous spirit on both sides would sweep away all traces of this higgling temper, and the true interests of Canada will be best promoted by a hearty effort on her part to do all that is in her power, without calculating too nicely whether she might not be able to make out a plausible case for assistance towards the expenses of a fortification or the equipment of an army.

An early occasion will test the spirit in which the Canadians are prepared to accept their new responsibilities. An old engagement to put Montreal in a state of defence has been plausibly enough postponed until the final establishment of the Confederation; and they owe it to themselves to enter upon the work in an ungrudging spirit. There has been some reluctance during the transition period to incur the expense of a proper organisation of the Militia and Volunteers on a scale suited to the requirements of the country. Either as a Militiaman or a Volunteer, every inhabitant of a country situated as Canada is, with a long unprotected frontier, and a neighbour who cannot abstain from protesting against the improvement of her internal organi-

zation, ought to have some measure of military training. If these duties are undertaken with spirit, Canada will soon find that her own action has extinguished the party that clamours for separation, and she will obtain, in case of need, far more than an equivalent support from this country (whether it may be wanted in men or money, or in both), than she could ever secure by the most ingenious plea for getting the preliminary work done at the expense of England. Without canvassing the justice of past claims on either side, what we say to the Canadians is that a frank ungrudging effort for their own defence is the only policy that will pay.

While the girl was speaking the prisoner remained silent, but when she had concluded, he said: "Mrs. T. shake hands with her." The magistrates gave their hands to the girl, and he waved over to her and kissed the girl. He said, "Good-bye, Tilly, good-bye;" but the girl made no reply. He then burst out crying.

It appears from the statements made by the prisoner that he had made preparations for the commission of the crime. Police-sergeant Fry said to him, "The charge against you is cutting and wounding, with the intent to murder; and the prisoner replied, "It is quite right," and then he said, "I have been to my mother's house to tell her that she was brought to her home between 4 and 6 o'clock on Wednesday morning. "Not before that—from half-past 8 o'clock in the evening!" said the prisoner. He also said, "When I was leaving the field I heard her cry 'Freddy, Freddy, Freddy,' but I thought that she could not last long I did not return to her. I ran across the fields and down the road until I got to Epping Forest. When I met a policeman or anybody on the road I thought that he was the police in the officer at my side had a package in his pocket. I said, 'I have a powder and it has burnt my tongue and mouth. I then thought of going to the police station at Loughton, but I thought that they might be asleep. When I got to Epping I walked about the town from 2 o'clock until 5 in the morning, not wishing to disturb the police."

The prisoner was yesterday remanded by the magistrates.

It is stated that he met the young girl at Buckhurst Hill, and, after keeping company with her for some months, he seduced her. He wished to keep the fact concealed from his friends, who are stated to be dead, and he allowed her £2 10s. a week when a child was born, four months ago. He has lately been very jealous of her, and it is also said that he had some quarrel with her about his family.

Last evening the young girl was in a very dangerous state. The affair, as might be expected, has created painful excitement throughout the district in which it occurred.

A CHILD'S TRADE IN BETHNAL GREEN.

The Spectator occasionally gives insertion to copies of tracts such as "How to live and then die peacefully," "The world will not willingly let die," &c. The character is the nervous and affecting lines which we are here tempted to transfer in *extenso* to our columns—lines not unworthy of taking their place by the side of Elizabeth Barrett Browning's "Cry of the Children."—*Ed.—Sun.*

Lucifer-Boxes—the name suits well.

"With the stench, &c., the glare, and a line of Hell: With the stench, &c., the glare, and a line of Hell: With the stench, &c., the glare, and a line of Hell: As the small manufacturers *find their own past*, Such a child I look on my knee.

Her mother, a widow, is dead; her father is dead; The old and aiky paid child.

Four little women, mock and mild.

Four little children, *giving* and *giving*, Since the wretched had a living.

Her Mother, the decent English woman, Shall stand or fear that her heart is human?

Her Father, the dead, and the dead, and the dead.

Who could grieve him his pipe and can?

Oh God! For Parents what a doom!

The child is dead, the child is dead, the child is dead.

Telling to earn, and an early tomb!

Never a hour of holiday.

It is hard to earn, but the sense of the word "to play."

Parents, above, parents, and parents, Hundreds of boxes, made in haste.

Lester-Box—the name fits well.

With the stench, &c., the glare, and a line of Hell,

For the Devil looks on, and, and, and, and, and, and,

With the stench, &c., the glare, and a line of Hell.

To be beaten by Man in his own black craft.

Talk of the Devil, and he'll catch you,

Boys and girls, white, black, and tan,

All ingenuous, but here is seen,

A wonderland! God-made live,

Each a child, each a child, each a child,

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NEW ZEALAND: ITS GOVERNMENT, PROVINCES, CAPABILITIES, &c.

No. VI.

[COMMUNICATED.]

The Southern island of New Zealand differs in most respects from the Northern island. While the north is, throughout its whole length and breadth, a diversified country in which hill and valley, wood, water, and plain country are distributed with tolerable equality, the south presents few of these characteristics. Its plains are larger, its mountains vastly greater, its forests, where they do occur, more unbroken and sombre, and its rivers larger and more impetuous than those in its northern neighbour. The natural distinctions, as much as the want of a native population, have placed the Southern island of New Zealand up to this time in a very different position from the rest of the colony. The island is of considerably larger area than the one with which I have hitherto dealt. It is said to contain about forty-three millions of acres of land, while the Northern island contains hardly thirty-two millions of acres. It is divided politically into five provinces, but naturally into two great divisions. The provinces are Nelson, Marlborough, Canterbury, Otago, and Southland, while the natural divisions are the plain country and the mountainous. Originally there were but three provinces in the island, and the country was divided with tolerable fairness between them. It will be most convenient in looking at the resources and prospects of the Southern island still to adhere to this old division.

The northern end of the island was colonised by the New Zealand Company in 1842. Their first settlement, which was originally intended to have been made at Port Cooper—now Lyttelton and the province of Canterbury—was, owing to some differences with Governor Hobson, finally established at Nelson, at the head of Blind Bay. The site of the capital was chosen, it may almost be said, from the force of circumstances; and although the point is a good one, the back country is singularly inaccessible and forbidding in appearance. The whole province, even when it included Marlborough, was little better than a mass of mountains, with a few valleys between, as a rule of no great extent, and not remarkable for their fertility. This part of the country, with the exception of the large valley of the Wairau, can never be an agricultural district. It is to some extent a pastoral country, but owing to the vast preponderance of steep mountains and deep narrow valleys, it seems hardly likely that it will ever support a very large number, even of sheep. As a rule the land is poor; indeed, with the exception of plains, where large quantities of alluvial soil have been brought down from the mountains, and plains of this sort are more rare in the Southern island than has been imagined, there is little really fine land south of Cook's Straits. The whole country seems composed of loose shingle, and even mountains six or seven thousand feet high show nothing else to the very top. In most parts of the province of Nelson this shingle lies very near to the surface, and is, of course, singularly valueless for agricultural purposes. The impression of the traveller through this country would inevitably be, that if it were not a mineral country it was good for very little, and all experience would confirm the impression.

I have said that the Southern island of New Zealand was naturally divisible into two districts—the plains and the hills; and before I can give any clear idea of the mineral resources of the island, it will be quite necessary to make this point clearly understood. A glance at any good map of the country will convince an observer that fully the larger half of the Southern island of New Zealand is mountainous. From the very shores of Cook's Straits the land rises into a succession of ranges of hills quite unlike anything to be met with on the Northern side of the Straits. Several distinct ranges of mountains run down the island in the general direction from north-east to south-west. The general height of these ranges may be placed at from three to six thousand feet, but occasionally rising to more than twice that altitude. The country between them is wild and rugged in the extreme; the valleys are deep and narrow, with usually a rapid river in the middle, subject to floods whenever the snow melts, while the forest is almost entirely a sombre black birch, which is neither valuable nor ornamental. These mountain ranges all bend towards the west coast, so that, except at the northern end of the island, they leave nearly half the width of the island to the eastward of their slopes. The natural grasses which abound on the plains have crept up these slopes to a considerable height, and the country has been taken up as sheep runs even so far into the mountains as to give rise to a number of dismal tales year by year of shepherds lost in the snow, or deprived of feet or hands by exposure to the cold. On the eastern slopes of the mountains, however, no minerals of any importance have yet been discovered, until they reach nearly their southern limit, nor does it appear very likely that any will be found. Of the western slopes the reverse is true, a remarkable extent. The ranges begin, as I have said, at Cook's Straits, where, although of no great height, they descend in many places abruptly into the sea. Here minerals of many kinds have been discovered, and gold, copper, coal, and plumbago have been found, and all more or less worked.

The gold-fields of Marlborough have not risen into much notice or importance rather from their limited extent than from any want of richness. It is said that richer claims were worked on the small diggings at Wakanaria than have been on almost any other field; and even now, when the West Coast fields have drawn so much attention, there are diggers who continue to work on this small field or rather valley. On the Western coast of this island, however, it is that the mineral discoveries have been made on a large scale. There the numerous ranges that commence at Cook's Straits begin to blend into one great chain of mountains, which gradually approaches the coast until, when it reaches the Middle district of the island, it culminates in the peak called Mount Cook, which rises nearly to the height of Mont Blanc, and runs its spur out into the ocean in great beaming promontories of solid rock. This chain of mountains, which has been dignified by the title of the "New Zealand Alps," appears to be the birthplace of mineral treasures to an all but boundless extent. From the ridge of this range to the ocean, on the west, the whole country seems to be mineral in character. Gold has been found at nearly every point, from the slopes of the mountains to the sand on the sea shore; coal crops out in vast masses at all sorts of elevations, in some places in seams of fifteen to twenty feet in thickness; and there are not wanting signs of other and hardly less valuable minerals, the discovery of which may serve to perpetuate that prosperity which the gold discoveries have already begun. The greater part of the gold hitherto exported from

infected ports were made to pass through them before receiving free pratique.

We consider the Island lying at some distance from the coast would be the most desirable for the institution of quarantine stations. On these, wooden—or, still better, weathered, isolated camps, with tents might be formed.

In the event of islands not being available, it would be well to select some place on shore, at some distance from the nearest habitation, or hawks moored at some distance from the land, but never within rivers. It will be obvious that several ships at each station would be necessary for the efficient working of the plan proposed.

The plan, however, as adapted to special circumstances, should, we think, be carried out within the country where the disease has found a footing on shore.

We cannot too strongly urge the necessity of excluding from warehouses and general hospitals any forms of chronic disease.

The sick poor should be cared for in special and isolated

We have based the suggestions which we have taken the liberty of submitting to your Lordship upon the supposition that all the agents employed shall be of an intelligent and upright class; that they shall be open to inspection, and that the persons placed under observation, and report to the medical officers every visit made by any one to the latrines. Without the aid of intelligent and trustworthy agents, it would hardly be possible to limit safely the period of observation.

While convinced that all personal effects should be thoroughly disinfected, we do not think it necessary to extend the measure to mails or to ordinary merchandises.

At this distance we forbear to enter into the question of the possibility of practically enforcing the foregoing rules, or of getting the necessary legislation through, if applied. We do not doubt of their advantage in a medical point of view. We feel confident, however, that they could be readily carried out in the cases of masses of persons as those of the German emigrants who conveyed the disease from Rotterdam to Liverpool.

It is, however, of great interest to note that the "Commission Pionier" has not one good harbour. No steamer of any considerable tonnage has ventured to go into the harbour formed by the mouth of the Buller and Grey Rivers, and the way in which, despite this want of communication, either by sea or land, this West Coast country is at this moment advancing in population, wealth, and importance, is one of the most remarkable instances on record of the value of mineral resources to any district of country.

INVESTIGATION OF THE CHOLERA COMMISSIONERS.

The British Cholera Commissioners forwarded the despatch, given under the seal of the Earl of Clarendon, which forms a part of the Report of the Sanitary Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.

Constantinople, May 25, 1861.

My Lord,—In our despatch of the 22nd instant, we informed your Lordship that the "Commission Pionier" had been formed, and that the Commissioners reported that the first and second groups of the programme had finished their labours, and that their report would be submitted to the Conference immediately after being printed.

We should have deferred any further notice of the above-mentioned report until the Conference had done its work; but as it has been observed in the public press, just now, that England is threatened with an invasion of cholera from the neighbouring continental ports, and that some difference of opinion appears to exist as to the measures to be adopted, we think the emergency deserves our attention in departing from the usual course, and in forwarding the report of the "Commission Pionier" bearing upon the most important points of the propagation of the disease.

We may observe that the "Commission Pionier," whose conclusions are embodied herein, is composed of three of the principal medical delegates to the Conference, and that twenty-four out of the thirty-six members of the Conference; and that, with the exception of one medical delegate, who was absent on duty during the latter half of the discussions, the sense of the conclusions numbered 1 to 6 was unanimous. We have, therefore, believed that the above-mentioned would be in accordance with the sense of all the other delegates would have voted with those of his colleagues.

On the 7th there was some difference of opinion.

The conclusions comprise the following points:—

1. That cholera is communicable from the disease to the body.

2. That it may be communicated—

(a) By persons in the state of developed cholera;

(b) By persons suffering from cholera diarrhoea, who have not yet, and who are apparently in health for some days during the progress of the disease.

The above points, posing unquestioned and unquestioned, are the most dangerous to the communities amongst which they may move.

3. That the discharges of those in a state of developed cholera, or in a state of cholera diarrhoea, become the chief means by which the cholera poison escapes from the system, and by mingling with air or water disease the disease.

4. That cholera may be transmitted by exposure of persons to the atmosphere of buildings, places, or vessels which have been occupied by cholera patients, and to the emanations of their clothing, bedding, articles which have been in contact with diseased individuals, or which may have become soiled by their discharges.

5. That when infected articles or places are shut up and excluded from free air, they preserve their dangerous properties for a long time; and on the other hand, the greater the exposure to ventilation, the more rapidly they become innocuous.

6. That there is no reason to suppose that cholera is communicable by actual contact between individuals.

7. That the period of incubation, counting from the time of the reception of the disease to the manifestation of the symptoms, is not less than eight days, and is probably longer in some cases, first by inducing fully developed cholera decidedly and rapidly; secondly, by producing slight disturbances, among which diarrhoea may be considered the chief, and which may occur or pass into some more or less decided cholera manifestations.

The "Commission Pionier" consider that the following are the most important conclusions of the Conference:—

1. That cholera may be transmitted by exposure of persons to the atmosphere of buildings, places, or vessels which have been occupied by cholera patients, and to the emanations of their clothing, bedding, articles which have been in contact with diseased individuals, or which may have become soiled by their discharges.

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4. That cholera may be transmitted by exposure of persons to the atmosphere of buildings, places, or vessels which have been occupied by cholera patients, and to the emanations of their clothing, bedding, articles which have been in contact with diseased individuals, or which may have become soiled by their discharges.

5. That when infected articles or places are shut up and excluded from free air, they preserve their dangerous properties for a long time; and on the other hand, the greater the exposure to ventilation, the more rapidly they become innocuous.

6. That there is no reason to suppose that cholera is communicable by actual contact between individuals.

7. That the period of incubation, counting from the time of the reception of the disease to the manifestation of the symptoms, is not less than eight days, and is probably longer in some cases, first by inducing fully developed cholera decidedly and rapidly; secondly, by producing slight disturbances, among which diarrhoea may be considered the chief, and which may occur or pass into some more or less decided cholera manifestations.

The "Commission Pionier" consider that the following are the most important conclusions of the Conference:—

1. That cholera may be transmitted by exposure of persons to the atmosphere of buildings, places, or vessels which have been occupied by cholera patients, and to the emanations of their clothing, bedding, articles which have been in contact with diseased individuals, or which may have become soiled by their discharges.

